

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Examiner Amendments***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's representative, Michael R. Hardaway, 9/15/2008.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

- Claim 1, line 26, after "data" insert --- . ---.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 1, 4-8, 16-18 and 21-23 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.
  - The prior art fails to teach an apparatus of Claims 1 and 16 that specifically comprises the following:
    - The instant application is deemed to be directed to a non-obvious improvement over the admitted prior art of the instant application and the invention patented in Pat. No. US 6,188,721 and US 6,531,931.

The improvement comprises:

With regard Claim 1, "a first stage operably coupled to amplify and equalize, to a first level, the high-speed serial data based on the frequency response setting to produce a first amplified and equalized serial data; and a second stage operably coupled to a amplify and equalize the first amplified and equalized serial data based on the frequency response setting to produce the amplified and equalized serial data, the second stage comprising; an input stage operably coupled to amplify and equalize the first amplified and equalized serial data based on the frequency response setting, to produce intermediate amplified and equalized serial data; and an output stage operably coupled to amplify and equalize the intermediate amplified and equalized serial data based on the frequency response setting to produce the amplified and equalized serial data." as recited in combination with other limitation in claim 1, and

With regard claim 16, "a frequency dependent load that is adjusted based on the frequency response setting and comprises at least one high pass filter, the at least one high pass filter comprising: a transistor having a gate, a drain, and a source; and an adjustable resistor operably coupled, to the gate and the drain of the transistor, wherein a resistance value of the adjustable resistor is set based on the frequency response setting, and wherein parasitic capacitance of the transistor and the adjustable resistor establish a corner frequency for the each of the at least one high pass filter;" as recited in combination with other limitation in claim 16.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ted M. Wang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3053. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chieh Fan can be reached on 571-272-3042. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).

/Ted M Wang/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2611

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